

**REMARKS**

The Office Action dated September 4, 2007 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-7 and 9-12 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 13-20 have been added. No new matter has been added. Therefore, claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,177,642 (“Sanchez Herrero”). The rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-9 are dependent, recites a method, which includes registering a plurality of contact addresses for a user in a controller entity, and receiving a request at the controller entity for a communication link to the user. The method further includes querying a user information storage for information regarding a manner regarding how to handle the request, and processing the request in accordance with the information from the user information storage.

Claim 10, upon which claims 13-15 are dependent, recites a communication system, which includes a multimedia network provided with a controller entity configured to register contact addresses of a user, and a user information storage configured to store information regarding a manner regarding how to handle a request for

the user. The controller entity is configured to query the user information storage and configured to process requests for connections to the user in accordance with the information queried from the user information storage.

Claim 11, upon which claim 16 is dependent, recites an apparatus, which includes a register configured to register a plurality of contact addresses for a user, and an interface to a user information storage configured to store information regarding a manner regarding how to handle a request for the user. The apparatus is configured to query the user information storage and configured to process requests for connections to the user in accordance with the information from the user information storage.

Claim 12 recites a communication system, which includes registering means for registering a plurality of contact addresses for a user in a controller entity, and receiving means for receiving a request at the controller entity for a communication link to the user. The communication system further includes querying means for querying a user information storage for information regarding a manner regarding how to handle the request, and processing means for processing the request in accordance with the information from the user information storage.

Claim 17, upon which claims 18-19 are dependent, recites a user information storage, which includes a user profile. The user information storage is configured to store information regarding how to handle a request for connection to a user having a plurality of registered contact addresses and to respond to a query from a controller entity with information regarding the manner how to process the request for connection.

Claim 20 recites an apparatus, which includes registration means for registering a plurality of contact addresses for a user, and interface means for interfacing to storage means for storing information regarding how to handle a request for the user. The apparatus further includes querying means for querying the storage means for information regarding a manner regarding how to handle the request, and processing means for processing the request in accordance with the information from the storage means.

Accordingly, embodiments of the invention provide various advantages. For example, embodiments of the invention allow an operator of a network to set a default behavior for a terminating proxy in the case that neither network user has indicated a user preference with respect to handling requests to multiple registered contact addresses.

As will be discussed below, Sanchez Herrero fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of the claims, and therefore fails to provide the advantages and features discussed above.

Sanchez Herrero generally discloses a method for supporting multiple registration from the same user, which is requested from different terminals in a telecommunications system, where the system manages information related to the location of the user and related to the plurality of identifiers that identify the user in the system. The method allows further multiple session establishment to any of the different terminals. Sanchez Herrero further discloses that, in the home server of the user, a plurality of private identities related to the subscriber data of the user, together with at least a public identify,

is stored. Each registration of the user contains a public identity assigned to the user and a private identity among the plurality of the private identities assigned to the user. (see Sanchez Herrero at Abstract.)

Applicants respectfully submit that Sanchez Herrero fails to disclose, teach, or suggest, all of the elements of the present claims. For example, Sanchez Herrero fails to disclose, teach, or suggest, at least, “querying a user information storage for information regarding a manner regarding how to handle the request,” and “processing the request in accordance with the information from the user information storage,” as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 12 and 20; “wherein the controller entity is configured to query the user information storage and configured to process requests for connections to the user in accordance with the information queried from the user information storage,” as recited in claim 10, and similarly recited in claim 11; and “wherein the user information storage is configured to store information regarding how to handle a request for connection to a user having a plurality of registered contact addresses and to respond to a query from a controller entity with information regarding the manner how to process the request for connection,” as recited in claim 17.

As described above, Sanchez Herrero generally discloses a method for supporting multiple registration from the same user, which is requested from different terminals in a telecommunications system. Specifically, Sanchez Herrero discloses the handling of a multiple session establishment towards a specific user that has multiple registrations. Sanchez Herrero discloses that the user first sends a registration request REGISTER,

from the terminal (UE) to the first-contact-point server entity, the Proxy Call State Control Function (P-CSCF) that is serving the access of the UE to the system. When the registration request (REGISTER) arrives to the first contact point server entity P-CSCF, the P-CSCF binds the address of the registering UE with the public-ID received in the REGISTER request, and then forwards the REGISTER request to an interrogating server entity, the Interrogating Call State Control Function (I-CSCF). The I-CSCF then sends a location query (CX-Location Query) to the home server entity (HSS), where the CX-Location Query includes the public-ID received in the original session request (INVITE). The HSS then looks into the location data of the corresponding SD register to determine which Serving Call State Control Function (S-CSCF), or which plurality of S-CSCFs, is (are) already assigned to serve the session control for the user and the received public-ID. (see Sanchez Herrero at column 10, lines 3-6; column 10, lines 30-37; column 20, lines 27-59; Figure 8).

Sanchez Herrero further discloses that, when the location query response (CX-Location Query Response) contains information related to only one S-CSCF, the I-CSCF forwards the INVITE request to the S-CSCF indicated by the HSS in the query response. However, Sanchez Herrero further discloses that, when the response contains information related to a plurality of S-CSCFs, the I-CSCF can implement different options. One option is that the I-CSCF selects one S-CSCF among the plurality of S-CSCFs indicated by the HSS, and forwards the received INVITE request to it. A second option is that the I-CSCF forwards the INVITE request simultaneously to more than one of the plurality of

S-CSCFs. A third option is that the I-CSCF forwards the INVITE request sequentially to more than one of the plurality of S-CSCFs until the INVITE request is “accepted” by one of the plurality of S-CSCFs (e.g. a S-CSCF sends a SIP response code of “200 OK”). (see Sanchez Herrero at column 22, lines 1-48; Figure 8).

However, in all of the cited pages of Sanchez Herrero, as well as the entire reference, there is no teaching or suggestion as to how the various methods of dealing with a request are selected. Therefore there is no teaching or suggestion of querying a user information storage for information regarding a manager of how to handle the request. Similarly, there is no teaching or suggestion of processing the request in accordance with the information from the user information storage.

The Office Action takes the position that “querying a user information storage for information regarding a manner regarding how to handle the request,” as recited in claim 1, is disclosed at column 10, lines 41-43 of Sanchez Herrero. (see Office Action at page 3). The Office Action takes the further position that “processing the request in accordance with the information from the user information storage,” as recited in claim 1 is disclosed at column 10, lines 43-36 of Sanchez Herrero. (see Office Action at page 3). However, the cited paragraph of Sanchez Herrero merely discloses that the query determines the user registration status (i.e. the public identity and the private identity assigned to the user). Similarly, the cited paragraph of Sanchez Herrero merely discloses that the public and private identity of the user are used to determine the corresponding SD register of the user. The SD register merely identifies the subscription of the user.

Neither the user registration status, nor the SD register, contains any information as to how to handle the user's request. Thus, the cited paragraph of Sanchez Herrero fails to disclose or suggest “querying a user information storage for information regarding a manner regarding how to handle the request,” and “processing the request in accordance with the information from the user information storage,” respectively.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application has novel material over the cited prior art document.

With respect to novelty, the inventor of the present invention has recognized that, in a system where a user has a plurality of addresses, there may arise a situation in which neither the caller or the called party defines user preferences as to how to handle an incoming connection request. Should this scenario occur in the system of Sanchez Herrero, either the system would produce an error, or the system would provide a connection that is incorrect or undesirable given the circumstances.

Embodiments of the present invention provide a user information storage entity in which default preferences are stored. This storage entity may be queried by a controller entity handling an incoming request.

There is no recognition of this problem, nor motivation to solve the problem, found in Sanchez Herrero. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application demonstrates novelty over Sanchez Herrero.

Thus, Sanchez Herrero fails to disclose, teach, or suggest, at least, “querying a user information storage for information regarding a manner regarding how to handle the

request,” and “processing the request in accordance with the information from the user information storage,” as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 12 and 20; “wherein the controller entity is configured to query the user information storage and configured to process requests for connections to the user in accordance with the information queried from the user information storage,” as recited in claim 10, and similarly recited in claim 11; and “wherein the user information storage is configured to store information regarding how to handle a request for connection to a user having a plurality of registered contact addresses and to respond to a query from a controller entity with information regarding the manner how to process the request for connection,” as recited in claim 17.

Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, Sanchez Herrero fails to disclose, teach, or suggest, all of the elements of claims 1, 10-12, 17, and 20. For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 2-9 depend upon claim 1. Claims 13-15 depend upon claim 10. Claim 16 depends upon claim 11. Claims 18-19 depend upon claim 17. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-9, 13-15, 16, and 18-19 should be allowed for at least their dependence upon claims 1, 10, 11, and 17, respectively, and for the specific limitations recited therein.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of the claimed invention. These distinctions are more than sufficient to render the claimed invention

unanticipated and unobvious. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 1-20 be allowed, and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time  
Additional Claim Fee Transmittal  
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